

“THE FREEDOM WE WANT, FOR OURSELVES AND FOR OTHERS, IS NOT AN ABSOLUTE METAPHYSICAL, ABSTRACT FREEDOM WHICH IN PRACTICE IS INEVITABLY TRANSLATED INTO THE OPPRESSION OF THE WEAK; BUT IT IS REAL FREEDOM, POSSIBLE FREEDOM, WHICH IS THE CONSCIOUS COMMUNITY OF INTERESTS, VOLUNTARY SOLIDARITY.”

-ERICCO MALATESTA, 1891

THE TRANSMETROPOLITAN ^{#7} *free* REVIEW

- *an anarchist newspaper* -

featuring

-WHAT IS ANARCHISM?-

-THE COMING REVOLT OF SEATTLE-

-FACEBOOK, SOCIAL MEDIA, AND AMAZON-

-ON THE PUNCH HEARD AROUND THE WORLD-

-BY THE BRIGHT LIGHTS OF THE EMPIRE: VANCITY ANTIFA-

-THE EVISCERATION OF EVERETT: DRUGS, ROBOTS, AND DEATH-

what is anarchism?

I don't want to defend myself. I don't want to be defended. I belong entirely to the social revolution, and I declare that I accept responsibility for all my actions. I accept it completely and without qualification. You accuse me of being involved in the killing of the generals? To that, I would answer yes, if I had found myself in Montmartre when they wanted to fire on the people; I would not have hesitated to fire on those who gave orders like those; but as soon as they were prisoners, I don't understand why they were shot, and I consider that act as one of remarkable cowardice!

As for the burning of Paris, yes, I participated in it. I wanted to put up a barrier of flames to the invaders of Versailles. I had no accomplices, I acted on my own.

You also say that I am an accomplice of the Commune! Of course I am, since the Commune wanted social revolution above all, and social revolution is my dearest wish. What is more, I am honored to be counted among the promoters of the Commune which, in any case, was absolutely not, absolutely not involved, as you well know, with the assassinations and the burnings: I attended all of the meetings at the Hôtel de Ville, and I affirm that there was never any question of assassination or burning. Do you want to know who the real culprits are? The police. Later, perhaps, light will shine on these events for which it is today so natural for us to blame all the partisans of social revolution. One day, I proposed to Ferré an invasion of the Assembly. I wanted two victims, M. Thiers and myself, because I had made the sacrifice of my life, and I had decided to strike him down.

But why would I defend myself? I've already told you I refuse to do it. You are the men who are going to judge me; you're in front of me openly; you are men, and I, I am only a woman. And yet I look you straight in the face. I know very well that anything I tell you will not change my sentence in the slightest. Thus I have a single and final word before I sit down. We have never wanted anything but the triumph of the principles of the Revolution. I swear to it by our martyrs fallen on the field of Satory, by our martyrs I still acclaim openly here, and who will someday find an avenger.

Above the courts, beyond the twenty years of forced la-

bor that you can sentence us to, beyond the eternity of forced labor if you want, I see the dawn of freedom and equality breaking. Come on! You are fed up with it, you are disgusted with what is going on around you!... How can you calmly watch the proletariat suffer without end while others gorge themselves? We knew that the demonstration at the Invalides would amount to nothing, yet it was necessary to go. Today we are in total destitution...

We do not call this regime a republic. We would call a regime a republic where there is progress, where there is justice,

where there is bread for all. But how does your Republic differ from the Empire? What is this talk of freedom of the courts when there is five years of forced labor in the end? I did not want for the cry of the workers to be lost. You will do with me what you want. This isn't about me. It concerns a large part of France, a large part of the world, because people are becoming more and more anarchist. People are disgusted with the way power was used under M. Bonaparte. The people have already led many revolutions! Sedan ridged us of Bonaparte. The people led one on March 18th. You will no doubt see more of them, and it is for that reason that we march full of confidence toward the future! Without authority resting in the hands of a single person, there will be light, there will be truth, and there

will be justice. Authority given to one person is a crime. What we want is the authority of all. M. l'Avocat-général was accusing me of wanting to be a leader. I have too much pride for that. I cannot abase myself and being a leader is an abasement.

I wish only to say a word. This trial is a political trial. It is a political trial that you will have to judge. As for me, you have given me the role of the primary defendant. I accept it. Yes, I am the only one responsible. It was a long time ago that I sacrificed myself and that the standard was gone for what could be agreeable or disagreeable to me. I see only the Revolution! That alone is what I shall always serve. I salute the Revolution! May it rise up over men instead of rising up over ruins!

It is not a crumb of bread, but the harvest of the entire world that the human race needs, without exploiters and without exploited. 🔥

(excerpted from **My Trials** by Louise Michel)



CONTINUED FROM PG. 10

a publicity campaign to assert Seattle as the greatest metropolis in the Pacific Northwest. However in its third run, the "Golden Potlatch" failed.

Rebellion & Repression the 'Murican Way

It was mid-July 1913 in Seattle, and the third year of the annual "Golden Potlatch Festival" was underway. A woman was standing soap-boxing in Occidental square, the heart of a gentrifying pioneer square, when she got into it with person(s) in military uniform who was there for the festivities as part of the military exhibition. This confrontation ended with a group of uniformed soldiers getting jumped by the folks milling about nearby at the intersection of Occidental St. and Washington St. The results were explosive.

The capitalist press, who reported that the soapboxing woman was a Wobblie, blamed the mayor and framed the ass-whoopin the soldiers suffered as being the result of the mayor's leftist leaning and a failure to reign in the unruly, radical segments of the city. The radical press blamed the military men, claiming they were drunk and started the fight. The labour council paper reported, with the receipts, that the Woman soapboxing was not a Wobblie and was "in fact speaking on women suffrage."

The next day a mixture of service men and concerned citizenry rioted and looted. Egged on by the capitalist daily's of the time, the crowd targeted the radicals. The different socialist party offices were attacked, radical posters were ripped and defaced, literature was confiscated and trashed, and the IWW headquarters was broken into and destroyed.

Following the soldier led riot, the mayor, fearing further unrest and a complete loss of order, put Seattle under martial law. The mayor assumed direct control of the police, street speakers were banned, and there was a failed attempt to shut down the Seattle Times.

Final Thoughts- Breaking the Mythology of the Colonialism

The final "Golden Potlatch" ended in martial law over 104 years ago. Seafair just passed. There is a colonial legacy between these two events that span over a century from each other. It is important to understand the stories of colonialism. Knowing them guides us in exposing the machination and apparatuses of colonialism and the colonial project. Knowing them helps us find clarity in our actions and thoughts.

As Seattle falls further into its own contradictions and a popular collective cognitive dissonance, Anarchist and autonomous individuals need to be able to see and move within the confusion. We have skills and know how. We have stories from the streets, the squats, the printing press, the bookstore, the coffee shop. In Seattle we have

stories of riots, MayDay and even the Legendary General Strike.

We, anarchists and autonomists, also have a shared (to a degree) world view. We all, within us, have an antagonism towards the world we face. In this antagonism we can expose the colonial stories buried under their own mythology. For example they call Columbus a discoverer of America. This is colonial mythology. Our shared antagonism allows us to see through this bullshit.

This is my attempt to break the mythology behind Seafair and expose it for what I see it as: A colonial legacy built on gentrification and the repression of the rebellious class, a military exhibition of spectacular force, and a flaunting of stolen wealth. Hopefully sharing this with you did something.

In solidarity with the Duwamish and Suquamish, whose land my family has lived on for six generations. I hope this simple writing contributes to the overthrow and destruction of the colonial project.

In solidarity with Black August and the discipline of the martyrs and revolutionaries that came before me and those still trapped in the cages. 🔥

IN SOLIDARITY TO REBELS AND ANARCHIST EVERYWHERE.

IN SOLIDARITY WITH THOSE BUILDING AUTONOMY AGAINST EMPIRE.

TOWARDS FURTHER CONVERSATIONS AT THE COMMUNE.

TOWARDS FIGURING OUT THE SECRET OF THE PINE CONE.

AND LASTLY FUCK THE POLICE. 1312

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ever a preacher, on a mission to eliminate vice from Seattle, exposed Wappy and his connection with mayor Hi Gill. This led to a semi-popular crusade against Wappy and Hi Gill. When Hi Gill refused to step down, a recall campaign was started- one he would lose to a reformer by February 1911. Most votes against Hi Gill in the recall, were from women who had just received the right to vote in Washington. It was in this context that the first “Golden Potlatch” occurred.

“Golden Potlatch”: White boys playing Indians

In late July, not the six months after Gill’s recall election, a re-enactment of the landing of the Portland took place. Aboard the boat was “King D’oro”, avatar of golden wealth. The person chosen to embody “King D’oro” was Edgar Webster- an insurance agent for Alaska and the Yukon region and part owner of the Alaska Bank in Fairbanks. On his estate he’d play host to many elite social functions during the First “Golden Potlatch”. Other exclusive events and high society festivities established the tradition of hydroplanes and the air show. The First “Golden Potlatch” also served as a military display of force- a fleet from the US navy and a British navel “sloop-of-war” were present for the festivities.

The second “Golden Potlatch” held in the summer of 1912 was marketed with native imagery, capitalizing heavily on Seattle’s colonially “borrowed” Indian heritage. If you didn’t already know, “Potlatch” is a stolen word originating from what settler anthropologists and historians call Chinook Jargon -the pidgin trade language of the region spanning from Oregon all the way north to the Yukon. This is the very same region from which the flow of capital generated by the gold rush circulated initially.

The settler historians and anthropologists tell us a “Potlatch” is a “gift-giving feast”. (In a colonial gesture, these same settler historians and anthropologists, attempt to define it as the primary political economy of the indigenous people in this region.) Beyond the name, another examples of the misappropriations of the Chinook Jargon by the settlers include the boosters taking of the name “Tilikums”-Chinook Jargon for “friends”. Many of these so-called “Tilikums” hosted and lead civic events and sponsored and rode on themed floats in the “Golden Potlatch” parade. The elite of Seattle, in a similar colonial gesture,

replaced “King D’oro” with “Hyas Tyee Kopa Konoway” (which I’ve interpreted as “Great Leader of Everyone”, though my knowledge of the Chinook Jargon is very remedial).

The First “Hyas Tyee Kopa Konoway” of the “Golden Potlatch” was George Allen- an insurance executive who managed the Pacific Northwest region of the National Surety Company of New York. George Allen belonged to a group called “Tilikums Eltteas”. They made their debut by unveiling of a refurbished and painted “Chief of All Women” totem pole in the fall of 1911- the same year that mayor Hi Gil was voted out of office by women.

The “Chief of All Women” was stolen from the Kinnikook folks near Fort Tongass in 1899- two years into the Gold Rush. Prior to the formation of the so called tilikums, a group of prominent citizens of Seattle sponsored by the Seattle P.I. as the “Good Will Committee” were touring the ports of southeast Alaska. The tour driven aboard a steamer called City Of Seattle. When the tour boat arrived at Fort Tongass, the “Good Will Committee” invaded a village while the residents were off fishing, and cut down the totem pole, sawed it into two, and loaded the totem pole aboard the City of Seattle. A federal grand jury in Alaska indicted 8 men from Seattle’s ruling class for theft of government property. Senators and Representatives from the region would leverage the positions in the federal government. Seattle’s capitalist class

wined and dined at the newly appointed US district court Judge for Alaska. One of the Judges first acts was to dismiss the case. Initially the Tlingit Tribe demanded \$20,000 dollars but only ended up receiving \$500 dollars, paid by the Seattle P.I. This is the colonial legacy that would be refined in to the “Tilikums Eltteas.”

In the 1912 “Golden Potlatch”, the “Tilikums Eltteas” had a float called “Chief Skool War Canoe” – upon which were some of the most powerful and influential men of the City of Seattle’s colonial project: bankers, attorneys, the Postmaster, staff from the Times and PI, executives and general managers of The Northern Exploration and Development Company, Alaska Midland Railroad, the Northern Securities Company and the International Steamship Company.

While the white men played Indian and mocked the traditional culture of the land, they were building a fraternal social hierarchy turning Seattle from a frontier town into an urban international node of capital. The “Golden Potlatch” served as



The future is here. This is the new Seattle. Everything is on a screen. Even the benevolent and wise Stranger has more readers online than IRL. Only a healthy 19% of the population can afford to live within the municipal borders. For that, it requires over \$100,000 a year in wages. Loyal citizens can now choose between two iterations of white-feminism (high-fascist pig vs. progressive urbanist) for Mayor of the City. Luckily, there’s a Ferris-Wheel on the waterfront if all this just becomes TMI. If that still doesn’t sound good, you can always go home, binge on Game of Thrones, and order authentic poke delivered to your doorstep by an underpaid Postmates worker, soon to be replaced by an even more efficient and timely Amazon delivery-drone. But if you want a little exercise, you can always walk to the nearby Whole Foods and use your Amazon Prime discount to purchase bananas grown on plantations in Ecuador. Soon enough, Prime will also offer a discount on coconut water.

Two generations ago people were easily able to afford houses in this city. Every house used to have a fruit tree, a yard for the children and pets, a few cars parked on the street, and neighbors who had known each other for years. Now every house must conform to the reigning aesthetic of density, homogeneity, concrete, rectangles, no yards, no trees, no parking, and no fun for those who can’t afford it. Someone born in Seattle a generation ago can no longer afford to live in their childhood neighborhood. If they could, they still might not want to. Unless they went to school for tech related skills and graduated from a prestigious university, the most they have to look forward to in their hometown is \$15 to \$20 an hour. Forever.

Microsoft built the first channels to siphon people into the emerging tech economy which now reigns supremo. Jump-started during the regional depression of the 1970s, Microsoft introduced an economic model not dependent on traditional industry or manufacturing. It involved the creation of something called software, a transient, ephemeral, and easily outmoded form of expression. The company was started by Bill Gates and Paul Allen. While “Billy the Nerd” went on to cure AIDS, cancer, and save Africa, “Paul the Apostle” built a real-estate empire and an atrocious metal blob at the base of the Space Needle. Paul helped move Amazon from its decrepit mental-asylum headquarters on Beacon Hill to the new glass towers of his South

Lake Union properties. In this manner, the future was born. Now look at it.

At the exact moment that Amazon is building a literal bubble for itself, a real-estate bubble has expanded to such absurd extremes that only 19% of the population doesn’t have to think about how they’re going to pay rent. Or, in other words, survive. It requires over \$100,000 a year to survive in this city comfortably. Those in the Seattle service sector are lucky to make \$30,000 to \$50,000 a year. If one is ejected from this service layer of the economy, they are then forced to navigate a variety of homeless shelters, tent encampments, tiny-house villages, wet doorways, and social-housing waiting lists. As an added benefit, getting foodstamps now officially requires one to either be actively seeking employment, volunteering at state-appointed institutions, or fully employed and earning less than \$2000 a

month, all of which is very difficult to accomplish living in a soggy tent. To top it all off, DSHS is now hiring more accountants than social workers. Because after all, numbers are everything.

The “dumpy generation” is only able to move out of mom’s basement by living together in cramped houses, being ruthlessly exploited by whoever will pay the best, and will have likely held 20 or more jobs during their grand 30 years on this earth. There’s literally no path for this generation

(also referred to as the “millennials”) other than a comprehensive revolt against the pointless insanity depicted above. This will require an existential break with everything their parents and their parents’ parents thought made sense. It doesn’t. It never did. And now it’s going to explode.

The pendulum is swinging backwards. One person’s trash is another person’s treasure. What was lost was never lost. Etc. Etc. Etc. We are mice. The cheese they always told us about was never real. No matter how much we see it on the screen, that shit’s fake. You can’t eat it. Many a mouse has been driven insane trying to bite this digital cheese. It’s gotten so bad all the mice are just sitting at different points in the maze, on their asses, and never thinking to just look up, climb over the walls, and escape. Until now that is. You have it from us, and we’re not lying. The cheese isn’t real. So now it’s time to finally get this party started and forget the cheese. There’s better things to think about. 🔥

CAPITALISM WILL END ANYWAY. YOU DECIDE WHEN!

#AntiFascistAlert

Nazi shit head seen on D line headed to downtown #Seattle

Submitter said they were harassing a black man on the bus



“I LITERALLY JUST GOT OFF A BUS AND WAS WALKING TO A MOVIE AND SAW SOME GUY BEING OBNOXIOUS UP THE WAY. WHICH I’M USED TO IN DOWNTOWN SEATTLE, BUT THEN I SAW THE NAZI ARMBAND AND REALIZED WE ARE DEALING WITH A GUY A LITTLE MORE THAN JUST OBNOXIOUS. I HAD EATEN OVER 800MG OF THC AND WAS WAY TOO HIGH FOR CONFRONTATION SO I JUST HELD BACK WITH TWO OTHER PASSERSBY TO WATCH WHAT WOULD UNFOLD.”

“HE COULDN’T GET UP AND HE WAS REACHING UP FOR ANYONE WITH THE NAZI ARMBAND AND NO ONE WAS HELPING HIM.”🔥


Be safe out there folks. Stay free, stay safe.


3:56 PM

Hey so I feel like this is the onlyhing I can do but since you know lots of local anarchist, there's a Nazi out in downtown Seattle right now with a swastika on his m, Screaming in peoples faces. I just passed him on 3rd and unionish. So if you know anyone in the area that would like to give him a beating... He said he's armed BTW

6:15 PM - 17 Sep 2017

6 Retweets 14 Likes





Shaughn Patrick Ffud

11 hrs · 🌐

Just watched a Nazi get knocked the fuck out



FUCK SEAFAIR!!!

“Seafair weekend is almost here. Fuck Seafair. Fuck the blue angels and the hydro planes. Torch Light can be lit, but fuck it anyways. Fuck it all.”

-local Seattlite ranting to barista at a Starbucks inside a Safeway

For those who are new to town or just don’t know, Seafair is Seattle’s summer celebration of itself. The purpose of Seafair is to generate loyalty and affinity with the city, to be amazed by the urban glory that is the emerald city. It is the city selling itself to the citizenry and the colonial project.

Modern History of Seafair

Seafair started in 1950, five years after WW2. It was the same year Boeing unveiled the F-86 Sabre Jet (an essential war-machine for the U.S. during the early part of the cold war) and had proven recovery from the post war bust. The local economy was booming. The city had not only survived the immediate post war economic decline- it came out stronger. Seafair was the Proof.

The first Seafair was initially planned to coincide with the Centennial Celebrations of 1951-1952, but the event planner hired was too excited. The colonizer loves to celebrate itself. Seafair has changed over the years, but it’s focus on celebrating the colonial project remains. From the pirate landing at Alki, to the hydro plane races, the air show, and the corporate sponsored torch light parade (the general fan favorite event of the whole spectacle), we can see colonial tools at work: Mockery of the first settlers landing and the following theft of land, the bread and circus on water, the exhibition of war machines, and the ceremonious flaunting of looted wealth. *So yeah Fuck Seafair.*

The Boom Before Tech: Gold, Growth, and the Gentrification of the Wild Wild Northwest

Seafair and the business elites that have been putting it on for the last 60 plus years are continuing the legacy of the “Golden Potlatch.” The “Golden Potlatch” comes out of the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition. This world fair was originally planned to honor the 10 year anniversary of the arrival of the boat Portland in 1897 with its cargo of a “ton of gold.” This steamboat and its mythical gold would kick off a gold rush that would catapult Seattle into the national spot light. Capital was flooding into Seattle at an ungodly rate. Today we are drowning in a similar deluge of capital flowing in from the tech boom.

The Tech boom in Seattle started in 1979 when Bill Gates and Paul Allen moved Microsoft from New Mexico to the eastside suburbs of Seattle. It took a little more than a decade and a half for Microsoft to become the most profitable corporation in the world. This brought Seattle out of a recession of 14 percent unemployment rate and vacancy rate of 16 percent. The Tech boom continues today, fueling the hyper-gentrification of Seattle and ridiculous increase in homelessness. Up until the Tech Boom, the boom of the Klondike Gold rush was the biggest boom for Seattle.

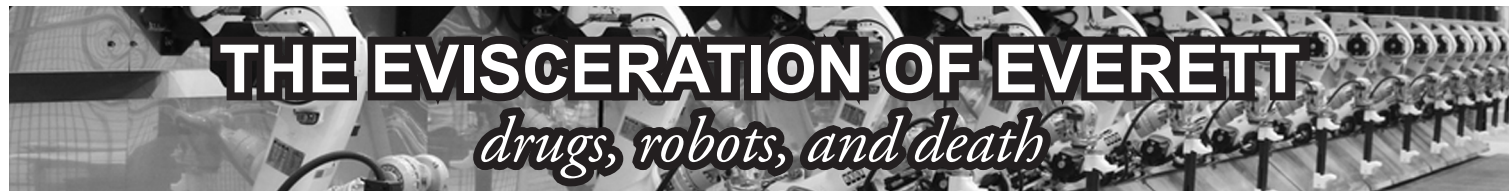
The boom of the gold rush and the increased migration pushed Seattle and the surrounding areas to expand at a rapid pace. Most neighborhoods in today’s Seattle proper started at the end of the 19th century and the first years of the 20th century. Terra-forming was done on massive scales. Rivers were depleted, hills were flattened, the water front was built, Harbor Island was created, and Seward Island was turned into a peninsula. With the boom supplied by the gold rush, the division of classes in Seattle became more and more apparent and unmistakable.

Before the gold rush, Seattle was a wild frontier town. It had the original skid row and one of the most notorious Red Light Districts. Even in the center of the business district, you would find brothels, bars, and dance halls. Soon after the gold rush started bringing wealth from the Yukon, Seattle began to grow a bourgeoisie morality. Citizens and government began to view vice as bad, but also understood it is necessary economic function to extract the high volume of excess capital flooding in.

The popular idea amongst the committed citizenry of Seattle was to isolate vice into one area. Eventually most businesses of vice (gambling dens, brothels, saloons etc.) were pushed outta pioneer square and downtown Seattle. Soon even the nationally infamous skid row and red light district became gentrified. Throughout this era of gentrification, there were multiple calls (all spearheaded by the different police chiefs of spd) to push the gentrification further and further south.

The climaxe of this era was embodied with Seattle police chief “Wappy” Wappenstien. Before starting his second non-consecutive term, Chief Wappy called the heads of the most well-known brothels and gambling dens together and demanded \$10 a women for the price of operating these establishments. Wappy is also recorded as investing in a company that would attempt to design and build a Red Light District on Beacon Hill.

However by 1911, Wappy and then mayor Hiram Gill would be run out of office. Wappy would be indicted by a grand jury along with Col. Alden J. Blethen and two others. Col. Blethen was the publisher of the Seattle Times and a big fan of Wappy. The Col. helped Wappy build his career, and in return Wappy Provided the Col. with personal SPD bodyguards. How-



"Right, they have eliminated our place of work entirely, and the factory operates almost on its own, it learnt it all from us!" -ELFRIEDE JELINEK, LUST, 1989

For many years, the politicians in Olympia have fought to extend tax breaks to Boeing so the aerospace and defense company will have every incentive to remain in Washington. In the early 1970s, Boeing halved its workforce and triggered a regional depression in the Seattle area. While poverty was increasing and the metropolis began to appear run-down, Bill Gates and Paul Allen started Microsoft and began to transform Seattle into one of the first tech-cities (which now hosts Google, Facebook, and Amazon). Both companies still exist in the region, although Boeing is now taking a cue from the new techno-overlords and beginning to replace its workers with robots.

This isn't a huge surprise. Boeing rose to become the darlings of the Pentagon by utilizing the Nazi rocket and jet technology they acquired after WWII. Now that their jets crisscross the planet every second of the day, Boeing accumulated enough capital to partially robotize its Everett production facility. This accumulated capital

existed thanks to over eight billion in Washington State tax exemptions, one billion of which was pumped directly into the robots. In 1998, the company required 200 humans to construct a plane. In 2015, it required only 102. That same year, the company installed the Fuselage Automated Upright Build system in its new production facility in Everett. By the time the facility opened, Boeing had shed 3,000 jobs since it was granted the state tax exemption in 2013. With the robots now churning out 777s at

the Everett factory, the surrounding region is increasingly volatile, violent, drug-addicted, and impoverished.

Since 2016 (at least), Everett has experienced a massive spike in crime and opioid related deaths. It even reached the point where the Mayor of Everett was recommending the city sue the manufacturer of OxyContin for the amount of devastation it had caused. In addition to these pointless deaths, the craving for the drug has propelled a massive crime wave that has lasted for years. Bus fare boxes, roadside coffee stands, purses, and other forms of insecure capital are routinely stolen whenever possible. This desperate need for money was even channelled into the scattered "bikini barista" stands where a whole array of crime was engaged in over the counter. This went on to such an extent that it's now illegal to wear a bikini while working as a barista. Even fully clothed workers are at risk in these stands and

are subject to wide variety of threats including sex trafficking, gunfire, and sexual assault.

Coffee stands are everywhere in Everett and cater to the working class driver on the way to their job. If these coffee stands can barely sustain their fully-clothed employees off the wages of everyday people, what hope is there in the future of this degraded and crumbling form of capitalism? The homeless or precarious population continues to grow in Everett and Seattle, although there's no tech-economy in Everett to alleviate the miseries of the economy. Those who are cast out on the street in Everett face difficult choices. Without a local job, people must commute south towards Seattle for employment, necessitating stable housing in their region (an increasingly difficult "commodity").

The restructuring of Seattle has led to a situation where only 19% of its residents can afford to live there (or make roughly

over \$100,000). This unsustainable arrangement has caused an exodus of low-paid workers from the metropolitan center, driving up home and rental prices as far north as Bellingham. Although many people are forced to work in Seattle, the metropolis offers little solace from those suffering the ills of this wretched system. Permissiveness towards tent encampments, permanent tiny-house villages, and new laws facilitating RV camping are some of the few palliatives offered to those cast of the economic order in Seattle. Everett offers far less of

this social-minded legislation. Its victims are awash in poverty, opioids, and violence. For these reasons, many homeless or precarious people flock to Seattle to escape their local misfortunes.

By the time the robots have completely taken over production at the Boeing factory in Everett, the city itself will have been physically and psychically eviscerated. Four years of layoffs and robotization at Boeing have been accompanied by extreme misery and pain in the local population. While all of this has been happening, Seattle-based Amazon is openly planning on the robotization of its own "fulfillment centers" and delivery services. The future they're offering is suicidal, pointless, and filled with waste. While it's easy to remain oblivious in the comfortable bubble of the metropolitan center, a simple journey north will reveal the wasteland capital leaves in its wake. 🔥



You might be wondering what it's like working for Facebook in their shiny new Seattle campus at 1101 Dexter Avenue in South Lake Union. Luckily, we can tell you.

It appears that working in this place is like being coddled by a cybernetic monkey doll that never runs out of frozen yogurt or espresso. Workers start at \$120,000 a year (which breaks down to roughly \$10,000 a month) while many others earn anywhere between \$250,000 and \$500,000 a year. A tech worker can take a short Uber ride into work from their Belltown or South Lake Union luxury apartment. If they decide to bike in, they can drop off their bike at the free repair shop downstairs and collect it, tuned up like new, at the end of the day. They can enjoy gourmet meals before, during, and after work, and if they get hungry at home, they can use the UberEats, Amazon Restaurants, or Postmates app to have a restaurant meal delivered to their door. Truly a blue collar establishment, if we may say so.

Service workers in this campus make between \$15.00 to \$20.00 an hour. The vast majority of these workers cannot afford to live in Seattle, and must commute for hours each day from points as far as Everett and Tacoma. The reason for this disparity in wages is because the people who keep the Facebook social media platform functioning are inherently more important than the people who cook and serve their food, at least according to the laws of capitalism, which we all know make a lot of sense. Under these rules, a Facebook shareholder can make \$10,000 an hour doing absolutely nothing but counting their chits. They are the best paid out of the whole bunch, that is except for people like COO Sheryl Sandberg (white-feminist par excellence), board member Peter Thiel (literal vampire and rabid Trump supporter), and its deranged ruler and master, Lord Zuckerberg.

Facebook contracts with Flagship Facility Services to provide food to the hundreds of hungry tech-workers eager to schlurp down the free food. About 70 cafeteria workers grease the wheels of social media by serving its minions food and cleaning up their mess. In addition to the janitors and facility staff provided by Flagship, an entirely different company is contracted by Facebook to keep the mini-fridges stocked with free food. Another company provides security, while another provides catering for events involving alcohol. The security workers have

been organized in SEUI Local 6 and make slightly more than the other facility workers. This same SEIU local is engaged in a similar drive at Amazon which has had mixed success.

The Seattle Facebook campus is built along a strip of new luxury apartments specifically built to draw in the thousands of tech-workers brought in by Amazon and its now sprawling campus. Facebook is currently expanding and will draw in hundreds more tech workers, as will Google when it expands into South Lake Union. Facebook and Google provide free food to their employees in a grand utopian gesture that ensures none of them have any incentive to spend their money at local businesses (the major justification for bringing these companies in). While

stingy Amazon doesn't provide any free food to its employees, that hasn't seemed to help the restaurants popping up to beg for crumbs. As The Seattle Times has reported, most of these businesses are failing and South Lake Union is now officially a sterile bubble of wealth with no purpose other than to make shit tons of money in the lofty pursuit of even more money (to build neat space rockets for Bezos!). It seems Amazon employees prefer to go to their housing units and order all of their food delivered through Amazon. It's really turning into a company town!

It remains to be seen how much an AFL-CIO union will benefit the cafeteria workers, but it likely means higher wages and less bullying by management.

Facebook allowed the union to form with minimal resistance and contract negotiations will soon begin between the union and the minions of Lord Zuck. The recruitment drive at the Seattle Facebook campus was accompanied by similar drives in Silicon Valley. Salting is easy and fun if you and one or more of your friends are precarious workers with the means to be potentially fired in retaliation for your activities. One need not join any bloated organization. There are a variety of locals (often affiliated with mega-unions) that are engaged in small fights like the one just described. We would recommend you start an IWW local in your workplace and begin to federate across your cities and regions. The point of these activities is not to fight for work as such, but to distribute what we have access to and keep asking for more. Capitalism makes no sense and destroying it is the right thing to do. Follow the black cat! 🔥



BY THE BRIGHT LIGHTS OF THE EMPIRE

anti-fascism in vancouver

The recent anti-fascist mobilization in the City of Vancouver on August 19th drew thousands of people to City Hall. The media referred to this mobilization as anything but anti-fascist: anti-hate, pro-diversity, but definitely not anti-fascist. It didn't matter that a local fascist group called the Soldiers of Odin was referenced in the call out, it still wasn't anti-fascist. That would be too bold a stance for Vancouver liberals to take, especially given recent revelations of Russian bots seeding anti-antifa tweets and memes over the past weeks in an effort to make them panic. LOL.

The initial fascist call-out for August 19th was released by an apparent moron who used an image of the Expo Centre instead of City Hall to help his followers find their way. In the end, only a few masochistic trolls showed up to live-stream their inane behavior and document the "liberal menace" of Vancouver. During the massive mobilization against the absent fascists, the lone bearer of the black and red Antifa flag was repeatedly harassed by liberals for "bringing violence" to the peaceful demonstration. Truly a bizarre world, if we may say so.

While we applaud the turnout and organization of this demonstration, the sense of peace and accomplishment that followed it pose a serious risk. While the fascists were clearly outnumbered in super-liberal and super-wealthy Vancouver, their street activities are largely unopposed in the eastern edge of the city and the suburbs beyond. One of the most noxious and violent of these groups are the Soldiers of Odin, an international fascist organization established in Finland with a chapter in Vancouver. In September of 2016, the group began to conduct street patrols in the Downtown Eastside, citing the high drug-use, poverty, and crime as their motivation. Most of the deadly overdoses and addiction on the Eastside stem from the use of fentanyl, a synthetic opiate frequently linked to China. With this drug consistently being imported to British Columbia from the Communist nation, the fascists have found an eager audience for their anti-immigrant, anti-global claims.

In addition to this, the Soldiers of Odin also handed out food and supplies to the homeless and specifically targeted vulnerable women in the Downtown Eastside. As Anti-Racist Action Victoria reported, the Soldiers of Odin "are targeting women leaving abusive relationships with offers to accompany them to court dates and other support...women and girls are warned not to take handouts from SOO because of the risk of being coerced into gang activity. Social workers, shelter operators, and the general public are cautioned to watch out for these individuals and groups looking to gain access to vulnerable women and children, both online and in person."

As news of these fascist foot-patrols spread over the interwebs, the response of most people was muted. While the luxury-capital of Vancouver kept flowing, the Soldiers of Odin grew

increasingly emboldened and crept ever closer to Downtown. Meanwhile, a new "alt-right free speech club" appeared at the University of British Columbia campus who wore red hats emblazoned with the phrase MAKE CANADA GREAT AGAIN. When this pathetic group of morons were confronted by anarchists and antifascists at hangout in a bar downtown, each of them obscured their fascism behind the veil of free speech and democracy. There was no violence in this encounter, unlike the attack on the 38 Blood Alley anarchist social center in Gastown that took place two weeks later.

While several members of the anarchist collective were preparing for a New Year's 2017 party, several fascists stormed in and sprayed everyone with bear mace. While this attack was



made widely public on the interwebs, the response from liberal Vancouver continued to be unsurprisingly muted, probably because they believe anarchists are viscous reptile demons spawned out of a cave in Switzerland with an inherent tendency towards non-rational violence. In any case, the anarchists of Vancouver remained marginalized and shunned in the peaceful, tranquil, and idyllic imperial metropolis and could only rely on themselves, their accomplices, and their comrades. How utterly typical.

After this attack, those able to summon their anger began to push back against this encroachment. Anti-fascists began their own patrols, put up posters, took down racist propaganda, and left their own graffiti across the Downtown Eastside (most notably the phrase ZONA ANTIFA). This back and forth continued for months, with one group constantly pushing against the other.

In late January, a coalition that included the IWW, anarchists, and anti-fascists held a march in the eastern suburb of New Westminster, pushing far outside the realm of the Down-

town Eastside. This symbolic march of masked anti-fascists and their allies was a response to fascist posters spotted in the area. A few Hitlerian creeps from the "UBC Free Speech Club" showed up to troll the demo but they were quickly pushed out of the crowd. When the Trump Tower opened in Downtown that February, the various local fascists showed up to troll the large protests and defend their glorious leader from the United States. Later in March, a few Soldiers of Odin goons and the UBC Free Speech Club showed up at the International Day Against Racism march with their Canadian flag, threw a smoke-bomb, and engaged in a scuffle with anti-fascists. Three of these fascists were arrested by the VPD, taken away from the demo, and released without charges. No surprise.

Almost five months after the fascist attack on 38 Blood Alley, The Volcano ran an article which claimed the Soldiers of Odin were still "in East Vancouver and the Downtown Eastside intimidating people in the community. But we have not heard any concern about this from the VPD or the Mayor of Vancouver. We have clearly seen that white supremacists are not being treated the same way as Black and Muslim people accused of extremism."

In May of 2017, a schism arose between the Quebecois and Anglo-Canadian chapter of the Soldiers of Odin. Apparently, the Anglos wished to disassociate themselves from their Finnish masters and went so far as to label them "racist, unorganized, reckless" thugs. Along with their peers in the United States, these fascist groups are all falling apart in a spree of backstabbing that continues to this day. It would seem that authoritarian, hierarchical organizations don't lend themselves to longterm survival, dynamism, nuance, diversity, flexibility, adaptability, creativity, or intelligence. Ha. Ha. Ha.

To tie it all up in a bow for our readers, when the massive anti-racist demo took place at City Hall on August 19th, 2017, the Soldiers of Odin were nowhere to be found. The local chapter's Facebook page has gone pretty silent and their little party seems to be fizzling out. All it took to accomplish this was actual organizing on the ground, IRL, in situ. Meanwhile, back in the ivory tower, the fascist twerps at the UBC Free Speech Club are still bouncing around under the cover of being affluent students with a right to "free speech." In the current political context, please feel free to say hello if you happen to see them on campus. Canada is a free country, eh? Regardless, we wish you all the very best. From the tranquil social-democracy of Vancouver, BC to the organic bird-sweaters of Portland, OR, we're all in this mess together. Take care. 🔥

SOME VANCOUVER RESOURCES:

[HTTP://VANCOUVER.MEDIACOOP.CA](http://VANCOUVER.MEDIACOOP.CA)

[HTTP://THEVOLCANO.ORG](http://THEVOLCANO.ORG)

[HTTPS://WARRIORPUBLICATIONS.WORDPRESS.COM](https://WARRIORPUBLICATIONS.WORDPRESS.COM)

an update on the 38 Blood Alley social space

The Victoria Anarchist Bookfair took place from September 16-17th. One of the presentations was titled The Urban Anarchist Movement in Canada and the US West Coast and highlighted the anarchist infrastructure of Canada (from BC to Quebec) and the western United States (Vancouver to the Bay Area). In their section on Vancouver, BC, the presenter showcased the story of the 38 Blood Alley anarchist social space in the middle of Gastown. According to them, the social space was gone, soon to be replaced by a luxury tower.

Unlike many other anarchist spaces listed in the presentation, 38 Blood Alley was a squat. Told simply, a semi-legal key exchange had allowed these anarchists to have a space without the constraints of the real estate market. The first event in November of 2013 was "a fundraiser and awareness raising event for Mi'kmaq Warriors who are facing multiple charges from an October 17th RCMP raid on an anti-shale gas blockade in Elsipogtog, Mi'kmaq Territories (New Brunswick)." The following December, the Blood Alley social space announced its first full month of events and stated "we are an anarchist space located at 38 Blood Alley Square on Occupied Coast Salish Territories (Vancouver). We aim to generally enhance the anarchist struggle in this city and beyond."

Between December 2013 and December 2016, the social space hosted regular hours and posted a semi-monthly calendar of events. In February 2017, the Facebook account for 38 Blood Alley began posting about disrupting a City of Vancouver public meeting to discuss the redevelopment of Blood Alley Square. The plan was to tear down the buildings (including 79 low-income \$300 a month housing units) and replace them with over 200 units, 80 of them subsidized, the rest priced at the market rate (ie: luxury). The development application for this project at 33 West Cordova Street is currently listed as "unscheduled" on the City of Vancouver website and other real-estate websites describe it as canceled. The project would have been spearheaded by Westbank, the developers behind several mammoth luxury towers in Downtown Vancouver. It's unclear what's happening now, just as it's unclear what happened to the 38 Blood Alley anarchist social space. It was the only one in Vancouver. We wish them all the best. 🔥